



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Venkataramana Vijay

SERIAL NO.: 10/617,610

GROUP ART UNIT: 3738

FILED: July 11, 2003

EXAMINER:

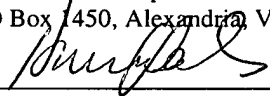
FOR: Heart Failure Mitral
Annuloplasty Ring With Removable
Central Posterior Portion

ATT'Y DOCKET: VIJ-003A

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on this day with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to : Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


David S. Jacobson
Reg. No. 39,235

10/21/03
Date

SUBMITTAL OF
DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO DUTY OF DISCLOSURE

Pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure 37 CFR Section 1.56, enclosed is a completed form PTOL-1449 as well as copies of the cited documents which relate to the above-referenced patent application. Since this document submittal is being presented prior to the first examination on the merits, no fee is due herewith.

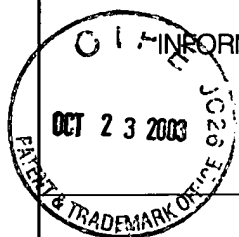
The listed documents are brought to the Examiner's attention because they are known to the applicant and/or the applicant's attorney and may be considered by the Examiner to be material to his/her examination. This listing should not be construed as representation that a search has been made or that no better art exists. No inference should be made that the documents are in fact material merely because they are referenced herein. Moreover, no representation is made that the brief descriptions of the references herein necessarily describe the most material aspects of the references. Further, by this listing, the applicant is not making any admission regarding the relative dates of the invention and listed disclosures.

Respectfully submitted,



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PAGE 1 OF 1				Atty Docket No. VIJ-003A		Serial No. 10/617,610	
				Applicant Venkataramana Vijay			
				Filed July 11, 2003		Group 3738	
US PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub- class	Filing date if approp.
	A	4,535,483	8/85	Klawitter et al.	623	2	
	B	4,917,698	4/90	Carpentier et al.	623	2	
	C	5,061,277	10/91	Carpentier et al.	623	2	
	D	5,104,407	4/92	Lam et al.	623	2	
	E	5,306,296	4/94	Wright et al.	623	2	
	F	6,045,576	4/00	Starr et al.	623	2	
	G	6,143,024	11/00	Campbell et al.	623	2.36	
	H						
	I						
	J						
	K						
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	1	Sorin Biomedica, <u>SOVERING™ The Soivereign Solution to Annuloplasty Rings</u> , Product Brochure					
	2	St. Jude Medical, <u>SJM Tailor™ Annuloplasty Ring</u> , 2000, St. Paul, Minnesota, Product Brochure					
	3	St. Jude Medical, <u>Annular Remodeling and Tri-Dimensional Flexibility in a Semi- Rigid Design</u> , Paul, Minnesota, Product Brochure					
	4	Sulzer Carbomedics, <u>Annuloplasty Ring Systems</u> , 2000, Austin, Texas, Product Brochure					
	5	Sulzer Carbomedics, <u>Implantation Techniques for the AnnuloFlex™ and AnnuloFlo® Systems</u> , 2002, Austin, Texas, Product Use Brochure					
	6	Eindhoven University of Technology, de Hart, Juergen, et al., <u>Fluid-Structure Interaction in the Aortic Heart Valve</u> , November 23, 2001, The Netherlands					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			